## Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-02 /016 R

DRAFTED BY L/NEA:JAROHWER:DSC APPROVED BY L/NEA:JAROHWER NEA/EGY:GGBROWN(INFO) H:GKRIZEK

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TO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 262132

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BDIS, CGEN, EGY

SUBJECT: GAO REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

FOR G. NORMAN ANDERSON

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED REQUEST FROM GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE FOR A REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH A CLAIM AGAINST USG FOR DAMAGES ALLEGEDLY INCURRED BY INTERNATIONAL EXPLOSIVE SERVICES, INC. (IES), A WASHINGTON COMPANY, IN PREPARING A BID FOR SUEZ CANAL RECONSTRUCTION WORK IN 1974. IES CLAIM IS NOW IN ITS THIRD ROUND OF CONSIDERATION BY GAO. IES SAYS IT LOST ABOUT DOLS 50,000 PREPARING PROPOSALS FOR CANAL CLEARANCE WORK FOR SUBMISSION TO THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, WITH WHICH IT FINALLY FAILED TO CONTRACT ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF USG INTERFERENCE. THE GAO REJECTED THE CLAIM, FIRST ON GROUNDS THERE WAS NO REQUIREMENT FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS IN THIS CASE; SECOND BECAUSE IES'S PRO-POSAL TO EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT WAS UNSOLICITED BY USG. IES NOW SAYS USG IN FACT SOLICITED THE BID IT MADE TO EGYPTIANS. IES PRESIDENT SIVER HAGE STATED IN A LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1975, TO THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL: "YOUR CLAIM THAT WE SUBMITTED AN UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL TO THE EGYPTIAN GOVERN-MENT OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS FALSE. WE HAVE DOCUMENTA-TION OF PHONE CONTACT TO US BY MR. NORMAN ANDERSON, UNITED UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AT THE REQUEST OF AMBASSADOR

HERMAN EILTS, WITH URGENCY TO WORK OUT AND PRESENT OUR

PROPOSAL REGARDING SUEZ CANAL RE-CONSTRUCTION (MARCH 18, 1974)." GAO HAS REQUESTED WE RESPOND TO THIS CONTENTION.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SENDING STATEMENT, BY PRIORITY CABLE TO ROHWER L/NEA, DECLARING YOUR RECOLLECTION (IF ANY) OF THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION HAGE SAYS IES HAD WITH YOU AND DESCRIBING ANY OTHER COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING SUEZ CANAL RECONSTRUCTION YOU MAY HAVE HAD WITH HAGE OR ANYONE ELSE IN IES. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING IN WRITING ON THE SUBJECT PLEASE POUCH IT OR LET US KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006